

Invitation for CSIS to appear @FINA on Tuesday

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Hello friends in MO

CSIS has been invited to appear before the House of Commons Finance Committee on Tuesday to talk about the EA, as a result of a motion that was adopted by that committee yesterday.

Here is the part of the Finance Committee's motion involving CSIS (see highlight):

That, the committee undertake an emergency study on the invocation of the *Emergency Measures Act* and related measures taken regarding the 2022 Freedom Convoy, and that:

a) The study examine:

- i. the financing of the protest and the blockades;
- ii. The broadened scope of Canada's anti-terrorist financing laws;
- iii. The federal government's increased ability to interfere with the business of crowdfunding websites; including but not limited to new Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC) regulations with which crowdfunding websites must comply;
- iv. The ability of Canadian financial institutions to temporarily and selectively cease providing financial services to specific clients;
- v. broadly the increased powers given to Canadian financial institutions to share personal information on anyone suspected of involvement with the 2022 Freedom Convoy;
- vi. The long-term impacts of these measures on individual Canadians' financial futures;
- vii. Any other issue or topic related to the extension of powers or their effect on the Canadian financial system by the invocation of the Emergency Measures Act on February 14, 2022;

b) Hearings begin no later than Tuesday February 22, and continue until March 18, and that each of these meetings be three hours in length;

c) This study include the following witness testimony:

- i. The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance (delete alone) for 2 hours, with a 10-minute opening statement;
- ii. Relevant officials from the Canada Revenue Agency, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, the Department of Justice of Canada and Department of Finance;
- iii. Barry MacKillop, Deputy Director of Intelligence, FINTRAC;
- iv. Angelina Mason, interim CEO and General Counsel and Lucie Blanchet, Chair of Executive Council from the Canadian Bankers Association;

- v. Paul Tkachuck, VP of Finance and Data Insights, and any other relevant officials from GoFundMe.com;
 - vi. Brendan Wycks and Keith Martin, Co-Executive Directors of the Canadian Association of Financial Institutions in Insurance;
 - vii. Relevant finance officials from GiveSendGo.com;
 - viii. Relevant officials from the Canadian cryptocurrency sector;
 - ix. And any witnesses invited by committee members, and that these names be submitted to the clerk of the committee by 5:00 p.m., Friday, February 25, 2022;
- d) The study include at least 5 meetings; and,
- e) The committee table a report to the House of Commons no later than March 24, 2022.

The portion of the EA Orders in which CSIS is involved is minimal – all it includes is a reporting requirement to disclose information to the RCMP and CSIS. The excerpt below is where CSIS is mentioned in the order (I've also attached the full Order for context – see page 13 of the attached order for full context):

Duty to disclose — RCMP or CSIS

5 Every entity set out in section 3 must disclose without delay to the Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or to the Director of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service

- (a) the existence of property in their possession or control that they have reason to believe is owned, held or controlled by or on behalf of a designated person; and
- (b) any information about a transaction or proposed transaction in respect of property referred to in paragraph (a).

I've spoken to CSIS, who confirms that this is the only time CSIS is mentioned in the Order, and that they would have nothing to say to the committee other than point to that section. Judging from the briefings that have been held so far, the portfolio may want to maintain messaging that this is a law enforcement issue and not an intelligence issue.

I would like to try to get CSIS out of this appearance, and the RCMP if they decide to invite them due to their implication in the reporting clause above.

If you have any concerns about this approach, please let me know asap.

Thanks

Susan